

1 October 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

In a by-line news story in the Times-Herald, 11 August 1953, Willard Edwards, who has an "in" with Senator McCarthy, stated:

CPYRIGHT

"A government worker in an agency which had access to secret and confidential data was named as a Communist party follower at a secret Senate hearing Monday....

"Four witnesses, including the alleged Communist, testified at the closed-door session of the Senate permanent investigations subcommittee. Chairman McCarthy (R) of Wisconsin, Senator Dirksen (R) of Illinois, and chief counsel Roy M. Cohn conducted the questioning.

"Both McCarthy and Dirksen agreed that the testimony, if substantiated by further evidence, carried a grave threat to national security.

"This involves charges that an alleged Communist in the government today is handling secret material of the military, atomic energy commission, and the Central Intelligence Agency," McCarthy said."

CPYRIGHT

The Associated Press on 10 August 1953 under a Washington dateline said:

"Senator McCarthy (R., Wis.) said today new evidence before his investigations subcommittee indicates a member of the Communist party had access to secret data of the atomic energy commission, and the Central Intelligence Agency."

Under the by-line of Murrey Marder, the Washington Post, on 12 August 1953, stated, in part:

"Questions arose yesterday about what 'secret' material is handled by GPO. Dirksen said the subcommittee confirmed that it handles 'material transmitted by the Central Intelligence Agency, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Defense Department, and the State Department.'

"Deputy Public Printer Cole.../when/...asked specifically about CIA, said: 'I couldn't say positively that we handle CIA work. It is my belief that we could, or would. CIA has its own reproduction facilities as do many other agencies mentioned.'" (Underscoring furnished--I had informed Marder and Ed Folliard of the Post, when the story broke, that CIA would come off with clean skirts since we had no classified matter printed at the main GPO plant but we of course could not say this for attribution. SJG)

RIGHT

CPYRIGHT Willard Edwards, under his by-line on 12 August in the Times Herald, said:

"The CIA, a super secret branch dealing in overseas intelligence, was reported to have hastily withdrawn all its work from the printing office when it discovered that an alleged Communist had access to its material."

Press stories referred to above are attached hereto, as well as two editorials, one from a Virginia and one from an Ohio paper, on the charges.

Mr. Pforzheimer states that he is checking Mr. Cole's testimony to see if any correction was made to allegations re CIA; he, Mr. Pforzheimer, says he did inform the subcommittee that CIA had no classified material printed at the main GPO plant.

Recommend withholding any action until Mr. Pforzheimer has opportunity to check Cole's and other testimony.

STANLEY J. GOGAN

Attachments:

- Aug. 11, LONDON DAILY TIMES, Communists "Access to Secret Data"
- Aug. 11, WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD, Aid in Confidential U.S. Job Named as Red
- Aug. 11, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, McCarthy told Red Has Access to Top Secrets
- Aug. 12, WASHINGTON POST, McCarthy Schedules a Hearing for Monday on Allegations of Security Risk at GPO
- Aug. 12, WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD, Probers Bare Alleged Red's Access to Atomic Secrets
- Aug. 12, NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, McCarthy Looks for Reds in U.S. Printing Office
- Aug. 22, NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, U.S. Printer Never Had Atom Secrets, Aid Says
- Aug. 12, PETERSBURG (Va.) PROGRESS-INDEX, Latest McCarthy Hearings
- Aug. 12, CLEVELAND (O.) PLAIN DEALER, The New McCarthy Case

*Copy to:
WG.*